

it asketh three days' rowing with a fine pinnace to pass [up] from the mouth to Venta Cruz; but one day and a night serveth to return down the river. *

At our return to our ships (1st August), in our consultation, Captain RANSE (forecasting divers doubts of our safe continuance upon that coast, being now discovered) was willing to depart; and our Captain no less willing to dismiss him : and therefore as soon as our pinnaces returned from Chagres (7th August) with such advertisement as they were sent for, about eight days before; Captain RANSE took his leave, leaving us at the isle aforesaid, where we had remained five or six days.

In which meantime, having put all things in a readiness, our Captain resolved, with his two ships and three pinnaces to go to Cartagena; whither in sailing, we spent some six days by reason of the calms which came often upon us: but all this time we attempted nothing that we might have done by the way, neither at [Santiago de] Tolou nor elsewhere, because we would not be discovered.

We came to anchor with our two ships in the evening [13th August], in seven fathom water, between the island of Charesha [*the island of Cartagena, p. 520*] and St. Barnards [*San Bernardo*].

Our Captain led the three pinnaces about the island, into the harbour of Cartagena; where at the very entry, he found a frigate at anchor, aboard which was only one old man ; who being demanded, " Where the rest of his company was ? " answered, " That they were gone ashore in their gundel oe [*? gondola or ship's boat*], that evening, to fight about a mistress": and voluntarily related to our Captain that, " two hours before night, there past by them a pinnace, with sail and oars, as fast as ever they could row, calling to him ' Whether there had not been any English or Frenchmen there lately ?' and upon answer that, ' There had been none ! ' they bid them * look to themselves!" That, within an hour that this pinnace was come to the utterside [*outside*] of Cartagena, there were many' great pieces shot off, whereupon one going to top, to descry what might be the cause ? espied, over the land, divers frigates and small shipping bringing themselves within the Castle."

This report our Captain credited, the rather for that himself had heard the report of the ordnance at sea; and